

Somers Economic Development Commission Minutes of March 2, 2015

1. Call to Order: Chairman Reed called the meeting to order at 7:12 P.M. Members present: David Reed, Richard Cheney, Victoria Clark, and Sarah Maskill. Community members present: Dr. Paul Salva and Mr. Scott Sutter.
2. A motion to approve the Special Meeting minutes of February 16, 2015 was made by Ms. Clark, and seconded by Mr. Cheney. The motion carried 4-0.
3. Mr. Reed received correspondence from Dr. Salva, President of the Somers Education Foundation (SEF). As SEF has just completed its first decade of philanthropic work for the Somers school system, they are seeking input for their strategic direction over the next decade, through the use of business and family surveys. Dr. Salva spoke to the EDC regarding distributing the survey to businesses in town. Ms. Clark recommended adding distribution on the EDC Facebook page. Ms. Maskill made a motion to e-mail the SEF survey to the EDC contact list and post the information on the EDC Facebook page; Mr. Cheney seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.
4. Mr. Reed provided an update on the 2015 Directory. The directory will be sent to residents and businesses of Somers through the Journal Inquirer's Saturday, non-subscriber delivery services.
5. Ms. Clark provided an update regarding a Business After Hours event, tentatively scheduled for the end of April at the new Edward Jones office opening in the Geissler Plaza. A second local business is interested in hosting an event, likely May-August. EDC Facebook page posts continue.
6. Mr. Reed introduced Scott Sutter to discuss a business/high school partnership. This partnership would enable high school and college students to work in local small businesses, gaining exposure to various fields of work and valuable experience. EDC members offered several suggestions that may help Mr. Sutter in the development of this venture.
7. Social media was discussed under Section 5.
8. Mr. Reed provided an update on the Routes 190/83 intersection. Letters regarding attention to this issue continue to be exchanged between local and state government offices, the EDC, elected officials, and other interested parties.
9. Mr. Reed reported that the POCD plan continues to progress.
10. Mr. Reed will approach the Board of Selectman regarding the EDC budget for the new fiscal year. A budget amount of \$1500 was discussed. Ms. Maskill made a motion to enable Mr. Reed to request such a budget, and was seconded by Mr. Cheney. The motion carried 4-0.
11. A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Cheney and seconded by Mr. Reed. The motion carried 4-0. The meeting adjourned at 7:47.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Maskill

Minutes are not official until approved at a subsequent meeting.